[5th February 1934

Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar:—" The answer states that Government are considering the question of amending the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act so as to reconstitute the committees. Since the committees are not functioning for over two years, may I request the hon. the Chief Minister to expedite the proposed amendment of the Act? "

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" The question is yet pending and, as soon as time permits, we will undertake legislation."

Reconstitution of Temple Committees.

* 621 *Q.*—S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that in several districts the Hindu Temple Committee have not yet been reconstituted;

(*b*) whether the Government will be pleased to state why they have not been so reconstituted; and

(*c*) whether there is any proposal before the Government to amend the Hindu Religious Endowments Act, so as to enable the Hindu Religious Endowments Board to reconstitute the temple committees in a satisfactory manner?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Owing to lack of funds it has not been possible to hold elections.

(*c*) The question of amending the Hindu Religious Endowments Act to enable Government to reconstitute the Committees by nomination wherever necessary is under consideration.

Districts enjoying the privilege of elected temple committees.

* 622 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) in which of the districts elected temple committees are functioning;

(*b*) why election for temple committees has not been introduced in the Salem district;

(*c*) who the members are of the temple committee in the Salem district now;

(*d*) whether this temple committee has got executive powers or whether it is only advisory;

(*e*) when elected temple committees are to come into operation in Salem district; and

(*f*) how many temple committees are to be there then and what the area represented by each is?

A.—(*a*) Committees are functioning in the districts of South Arcot, Tanjore and Tinnevelly. In Madura the Committee constituted for the Sri Minakshi Sundareswar, etc., Devasthanams alone is functioning.